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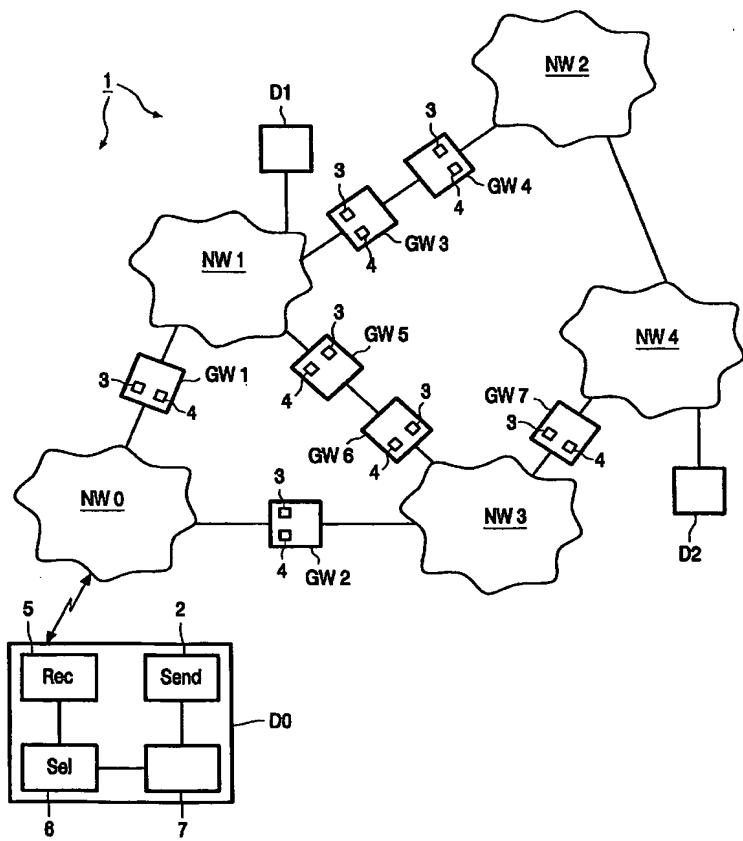
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(54) Title: COMMUNICATION SYSTEM HAVING DECENTRALIZED GATEWAY SELECTION



(57) Abstract: A communication system comprises networks and gateway means interconnecting the networks. One of the networks comprises a communication device having means for sending a communication request to at least one of the gateway means, and the gateway means have means for sending an answer back to the communication device. The communication device further has means for selecting gateway means, based on the answer received from the at least one gateway means. Now the communication device is provided with local intelligence, so that the communication device itself can deal locally with the proper selection of the gateway means. Based on the responses from the responding gateways a customised choice can be made with respect to the particular gateway that will be involved in the making of the actual connection between the communication device and the network concerned.